## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

Applicants: Shah, et al.

AUS 1 9 200

Serial No.: 09/891,983

Filed: June 26, 2001

For: METHODS FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES

Case No.: 6821.US.01

Examiner: D. Wortman

Group Art Unit: 1648

## **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR**

1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the:

Commissioner for Patents Washington D.C. 20231

COPY OF PAPERS ORIGINALLY FILED

8-14-02 Date of Deposit: Ino Date

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

AUG 2 1 2002

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Commissioner for Patents Washington D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above entitled METHODS FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS DETECTION OF HCV ANTIGENS AND HCV ANTIBODIES are the following:

- 1. Response to Restriction Requirement (1 page); and
- 2. Return Receipt Postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional Filing Fees required under 37 CFR §1.16, as well as any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17 associated with this communication for which full payment had not been tendered, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.



ABBOTT LABORATORIES Telephone: (847) 935-1729 Facsimile: (847) 938-2623 Respectfully submitted, Shah, et al.

Cheryl L. Becker Registration No. 35,441 Attorney for Applicants

#15 m ĪP PATENT IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BADE pplicants: Shah, et al. CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a)) I hereby certify that this paper (along with any Serial No.: 09/891,983 paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient Filed: June 26, 2001 postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed For: METHODS FOR THE SIMULTANEOUS to the: DETECTION OF HCV ANTIGENS AND HCV COPY OF PAPERS Commissioner for Patents ANTIBODIES **ORIGINALLY FILED** Washington D.C. 20231 Case No.: 6821.US.01 Date of Deposit: 8-14-03 Examiner: D. Wortman RECEIVED Group Art Unit: 1648 Kimberly A. Iorio Date AUG 2 1 2002 **RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT** TECH CENTER 1600/2900 Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

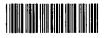
Sir:

1)

In response to the restriction requirement contained in the Office Action of July 18, 2002, Applicants respectfully elect Group I (i.e., Claims 1-17 and 22), with traverse.

Further, Applicants reserve the right to file divisional applications in the future in connection with the non-elected groups.

Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this matter, she is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.



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